

Camp John Manley, March 24, 1863

Dear Frant,

How glad I was to get your letter! I had been looking for it for two or three days and wondering what you would write. Would you answer in the same cold tone that characterized my letter? But no--it was in that same kind, good tone which always showed itself in your letters. And Frant, how GLAD I am that you DID write so! It showed me that I was in the wrong and not you. Frant, I ask you to excuse me and forget it all, and I will do the same. I was sorry I sent it after it was gone, but it was too late.

I was just eating when they brought in my letter. You may guess I did not eat anymore till I read your letter and knew what was in it. It seemed as if a great load fell off from me all at once. Frant, that was the best letter I ever had!

I am glad you learned that you are going to school another term. I believe it will be for your future happiness.

You say your father is going to make you a short visit. I should like to go home with him. I guess I might have had a ten day furlough if I had wanted it, but I could not have turned around more than twice, so I thought it would not pay. Anyway, I guess we will be home in a few months, for I think we shall whip them in the next three months. I think the next place we shall make a move will be to cross the river at Fredericksburg, and I feel confident that we shall drive them from their strong position. It will cost a good many noble lives, but it must be done.

Excuse all mistakes, and write as soon as you can. From your ever true friend,

Edgar Shannon.

[*The Jamestown Sun*, Wednesday, July 5, 1961]